



Action Items this issue



- ... [Sign up](#) for a field trip or two
- ... [Prepare](#) to enter our Honey Horn exhibit
- ... [Enter](#) our April competition
- ... [Prepare](#) for the Tri-Club competition
- ... [Enter](#) the Tri-Club competition

President's Message

Thoughts on Composition

Today's cameras have such amazing technology that they can do everything but make a great photograph for you. That "but" refers to composition. Composition is the aspect of the medium that is completely dependent on your efforts as a photographer. It is the part of photography that the camera cannot do on its own. Therefore, good composition is not something that can be achieved by expensive photography gear alone. Along the same lines, you may have a very astute eye, but without the aptitude to effectively use your camera, you may lack the ability to make the photograph that you perceive in your mind.

Photography is a technically based art form. Even the world's best composition can be ruined if the image is out of focus, badly over- or underexposed, or the result of some poorly chosen camera settings. On the other hand, a photographer can make a technically perfect image with a composition that is sorely lacking.



If you do not have that “eye,” there is still hope. Don’t give up! Much of composition can be learned. Consciousness of good composition can be applied to your images even if you struggle to see it unconsciously. Art is, at times, elusive to some photographers. However, if you love the art you create, no one should be able to take that away from you regardless of how you frame it. Learn to use your camera, apply the rules of good composition then break those rules and make the images you enjoy. In the words of Ansel Adams, “ There are no rules for good photographs, only good photographs.”

--Al Heacox

Field Trips

Hunting Island “The Bone Yard”

On March 16, we all traveled to the beautiful beaches of Hunting Island, the weather was absolutely perfect.

The ghost trees coupled with perfect sand, many shadows and reflections made for a great opportunity to hone our composition skills. We finished at 12:00 just in time to enjoy a fine time with all at the Johnson Creek restaurant on Harbour Island where we posted the ceremonial dollar bill on the wall.



(photo by Kendra Natter)

Upcoming trips:

- **April 20** Cypress Wetlands Park
- **May 10** Orangeburg Edisto Gardens Rose Festival
- **May 18** Bear Island and Donnelly WMA
- **May 25** Sumter SC Iris festival

Don't miss any of the field trips planned. These trips are an enormous opportunity to learn, network and share with fellow photographers.

To reserve your spot on these trips, or if you have any questions, comments or suggestions contact Gerry Fagan gerryf1@metrocast.net or 603-387-1855

New trip to be added:

Are you interested in a trip to the Alligator Farm/St. Augustine?

The Field Trip Committee is seeking those who want to go to the renowned Alligator Farm the last week of April. [The Alligator Farm](#) features nesting **egrets, herons, storks and spoonbills**, plus numerous **alligators and other animals** in their zoo. All of these are seen up close and are very photographical.

We are looking at April 27-28 or April 28-29.

We will leave at 9 and will return by 4 on the following day. On the first afternoon we will tour **historic St Augustine** to photograph the many historic buildings there. The next day we will go to the Alligator Farm at 9 and will spend the morning photographing the birds and animals. We will leave by 1:00 and proceed home. There is a \$22.50 entry fee at the Alligator Farm. Motels vary from \$90 to \$140.

Please indicate your interest and the best dates for you to attend

by emailing Gerry Fagan at gerryf1@metrocast.net. From there we will coordinate the dates, and motel and dinner reservations.

Competition Committee News

April Competition - April 26

April Theme is "Open": subject of your choice

Deadline: April 25th at Midnight

This month's competition is a warm-up for the Tri-Club competition in May. This is a great opportunity to get feedback from our judge and see what you should do before submitting your entry for the Tri-Club.

Do the following:

- **Prepare** your digital file and get a nice print ready for the meeting
- **Resize** your file in accordance to the [Rules and Guidelines](#) published in the Club website
- **Submit** your digital file as an attachment to competitions.cchhi@gmail.com
- **Use this link to register** your entry online: [online registration form](#); make sure to enter at the proper level of expertise.

Deadline is April 25th at midnight. Sorry no exceptions.

Tri-Club Competition - May 26

The **Rules** have been published and can be downloaded from the Club website: [Tri-Club Competition 2016 Rules](#).

The process for registering your entry is the same as our competition:

- **Register** your entry using the online form: [2016 Tri-Club Competition Entry Form](#)
- **Submit** your digital file to the following email address: Triclub2016@gmail.com

For questions regarding the rules or issues, please contact support at the following email address: questionstriclub@gmail.com

Next month:

Annual CCHHI exhibition at Honey Horn

CCHHI will once again present *Lowcountry Through the Lens* at the Coastal Discovery Museum at Honey Horn Plantation. This will be our sixth annual exhibit at CDM. This year's show will run from **May 5 through June 29**. The show is longer and later this year which means that our photos will get a lot more exposure.

Prepare and submit your images: Enjoy our gorgeous spring, and get out and capture some fresh lowcountry photos for this beautiful venue. Then submit them according to the guidelines posted on the [website](#). Each member may **submit up to three images**; at least **one** of those images must have **lowcountry interest**.

Submit early; only the first 80 photographs will be accepted. **Deadline** for submission is **April 21, 2016**.

Click here to get the [entry form](#).

Once you have submitted your entry form, send **digital copies** of your images to [John Parsons](#); these images will be used by Honey Horn for **publicity purposes**.

(photo by John Parsons)

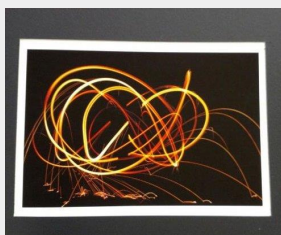


Opening reception will be held on May 11 from 5-7 pm. All are welcome.

Gallery Talks: As part of this exhibition, six of our club members will offer a series of gallery talks in the Sea Island Room, adjacent to the gallery, at 10:30 on most Saturdays during the exhibition. [Click here](#) to get the list and dates of the gallery talks.

Kurtzberg Awards

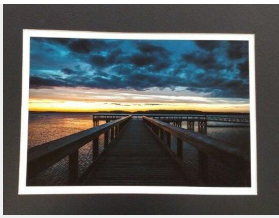
CCHHI recognized this year's Kurtzberg Awards winners at the March meeting. The Kurtzberg competition is part of the Club's community outreach to support Hilton Head High School students and reward their best photographic work. This year we received 45 entries. Thanks to **Kendra Natter**, **Karen Migliaccio**, **Rich Daley**, **Lew Allison**, **Victor Pizzolato**, and **Gerry Fagan** for serving as judges, and to **Gerry Fagan** for chairing the event. The images will be on view during our annual exhibit at Honey Horn.



First Place Award: \$200

Savannah Heitmann

Sparks



Second Place Award: \$150

Kelly Mianowski

Blue Sunset



Third Place Award: \$100

Emily Todd

Boy in Mirror



Honorable Mention:

Izabella Wilkins

Our Lord and Savior

(photos by Gerry Fagan)

Next Meeting - April 26

CCHHI meets at 7 pm the fourth Tuesday of every month, September through June.

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI)
2 Mathews Court, Suites B&C



Member News

**April Presenter:
Robert Rommel**

Robert's childhood fascination with animals led to an education as a biologist and culminated in a career as a nature photographer based out of Bluffton, SC. His images have been featured in books and magazines across the country and his prints reside in private collections around the world. Robert images have received awards in national and international photography contests. Lately, Robert has begun to show his work at art shows in the southeast and is planning on opening a gallery in the Lowcountry.

In this modern world of vehicles, electronics, and skyscrapers many of us



Congratulations to **Ed Funk** who was awarded the **Founders Award** at the **Beaufort Art Association's 2016 Spring Show** for his photo, "Coke Time."

Equipment for Sale

Zach Grether has switched to Sony and is **selling his Canon gear** (camera, lenses, flash, filters, etc.).

Please contact Zach for details at zgrether@gmail.com or visit his [website](#).

Grow...

...your photography skills

Learn about your most important tool for getting a great photo: [Mindframe](#)

Thanks to **Suzi Huisman** for submitting this link.

spend the majority of our lives within walls. Robert's work breaks us free of these walls and restores humanity's primordial bond with Nature. His images bring us into the seldom-seen world of America's wildlife and wild places revealing their endless diversity and wondrous beauty.

Tri-Club Prep

Get ready for the Tri-Club Competition, with tips to help you put your best image forward. Learn what makes a good image and what the judges look for.

April 21
7 - 9pm
at the OLLI facility



Final frame...

Outstanding in the field...

Field trips seem to be one of the most popular activities that CCHHI sponsors. There isn't a month goes by that we don't have at least one opportunity to go shooting together. Field trips are events where members can connect, learn, practice, create, as well as make photos.



The Photographer's Corner: Ben Moon

Ben Moon is a Hood River, Oregon-based photographer and filmmaker who enjoys working with a diverse range of adventurers, athletes and musicians.

Surviving cancer in his twenties inspired a greater connection and appreciation for others and the natural world.

Ben finds human emotion to be a source of constant fascination, and is just as comfortable hanging from a rock face or swimming through heavy surf, as he is filming a musician in the studio or on-stage.

Recently, his production company Moonhouse produced the viral short film Denali, which explored the friendship between Ben and his dog.

www.benmoon.com

Are you new to CCHHI?

Learn everything you need to know about the Camera Club on our website, starting with your [Newcomer's Guide](#). Need anything else? Just ask any of us!

Have you thought about the amount of research, planning, scheduling, coordinating, and following up that goes into making our field trips happen? (Personally, I think it would be a lot of work to plan *one*, let alone a *dozen*!) Our field trips are available and easy for us members, because of the dedication of the people who organize them.

So the next time you see

John Parsons and **Gerry Fagan**, won't you join me in extending them a **big "thank you!"**

--dv

Have something for the newsletter?

E-mail your information for review to drdonna1@hargray.com.

For consideration for the next newsletter, send no later than one week before the 1st of the month. Keep your message short and your images small.

Banner photo: This month's photo features our Kurtzberg award winners with co-chairs **Gerry Fagan** and **Kendra Natter**. If you'd like to submit an image for possible use in the banner, here are the requirements: **sharp, simple subject, uncluttered background, croppable to a narrow horizontal.**

This is not a contest. Simply seeking designs that will work with the banner layout. Size your image **650 pixels on the long side, 72ppi** (and at least 250 high), and send to drdonna1@hargray.com.



The Camera Club of Hilton Head Island is a member of the Photographic Society of America. [Click here](#) to visit the PSA website!

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